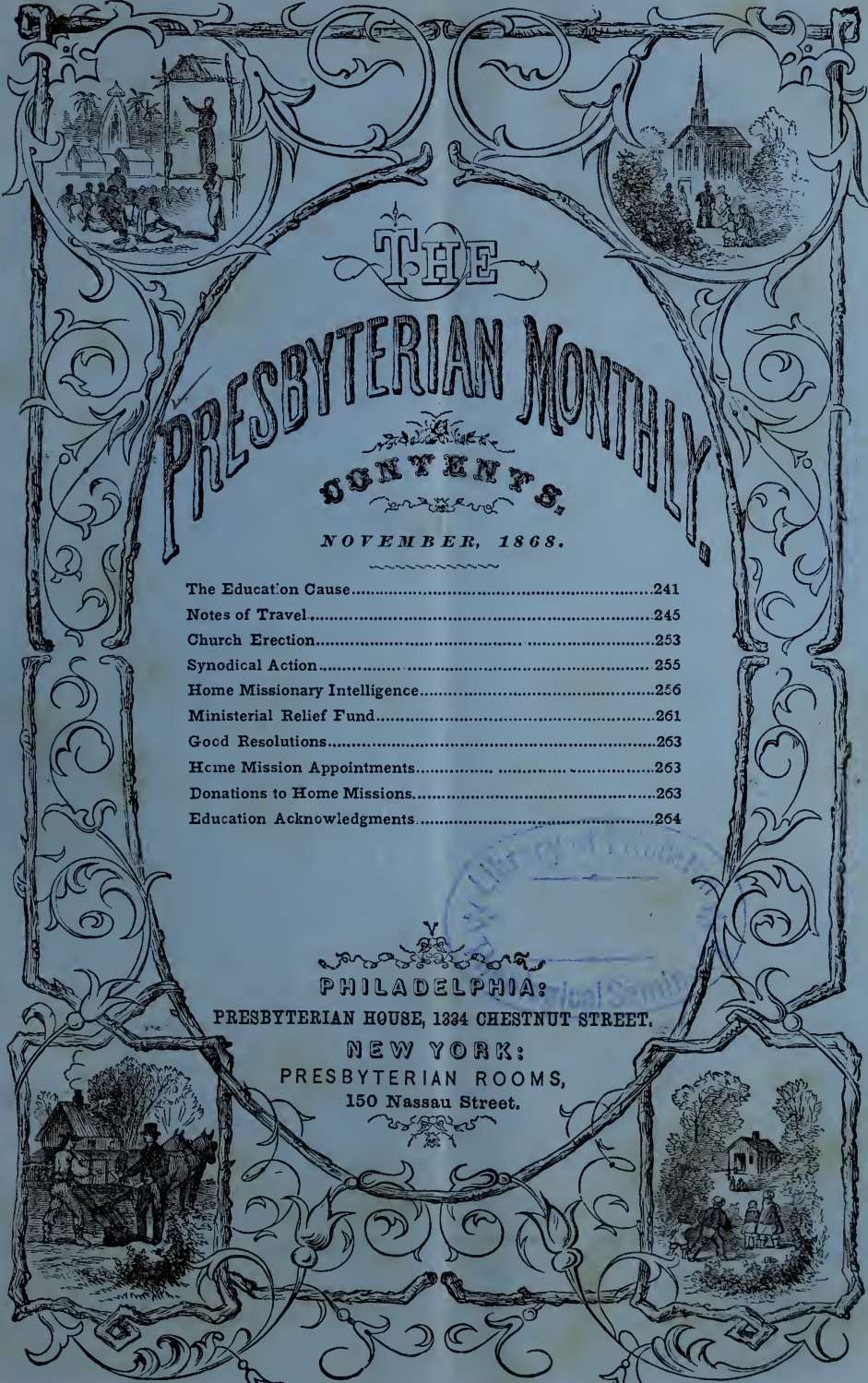


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THE
PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY
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NOVEMBER, 1868.

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FORMS OF BEQUEST.

1. I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the *Church Erection Fund* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, incorporated March 31st, 1855, by the Legislature of the State of New York, the sum of _____ dollars, for the purpose of aiding feeble congregations in connection with the General Assembly in erecting houses of worship.

2. I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, incorporated April 21st, 1855, by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, the sum of _____ dollars, to be expended under the direction and for the appropriate uses of the *Publication Committee* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

3. I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Presbyterian House, incorporated April 21st, 1855, by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, the sum of _____ dollars, to be expended by them for the appropriate uses of the *Ministerial Relief Fund* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

4. I give and bequeath to the *Permanent Committee on Education for the Ministry* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, incorporated April 17th, 1858, by the Legislature of the State of New York, the sum of _____ dollars, to be expended for the education of pious young men for the Gospel ministry.

5. I give, devise, and bequeath to the Presbyterian Committee of *Home Missions*, incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York, April 18th, 1862, the sum of _____ dollars, to be expended for the appropriate objects of said Incorporation.

6. I give and bequeath to the Permanent Committee on *Foreign Missions* of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York, April 17th, 1865, the sum of _____ dollars, to be expended for the appropriate objects of said Incorporation.

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Chairman, Rev. JAMES B. SHAW, D.D.,
Rochester, N. Y.

THE
PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY.

VOL. III.

NOVEMBER, 1868.

No. 11.

The Education Cause.

The education work has two distinct objects to pursue, the men and the means. It seeks to call out candidates for the sacred ministry, and then to provide means for their support. These two branches of the work may be attended with different measures of success, though they materially check or stimulate each other. A marked failure in either will at once react in a defeat of the other.

In the September number of the MONTHLY we gathered and classified the facts presented by the report in relation to the first object, the men. We propose now to present the information of the report on the subject of the *means* by which the Committee have provided for the candidates on their roll, comparing also the disclosures of the statistical table of the Presbyteries as furnished by the minutes of the General Assembly. It is desirable that this subject be clearly understood, in order that our ministers and laymen may intelligently apprehend their duty to this vital interest of the Church.

In view of the great increase of candidates, the problem of means was obviously a very critical one with the Committee. The previous year, with an aggregate of 145 candidates, the Committee expended \$18,498, in their support, besides the salary of the General Secretary, and the other expenses of the work. The amount contributed by the churches and individuals for the same year reached \$20,760, which covered the appropriations, and gave a balance sufficient, with the interest on scholarships, to meet all the expenses. As the year of the present report saw an increase of 60 candidates, or 41 per centum, the same increase in the amount of their support would require the appropriations to be advanced to \$26,054, which is only \$180 more than was actually paid by the Committee to the students under their care. A corresponding advance in the

contributions was naturally thought to be needed, and was expected by the Committee to carry them through the year.

To show how this natural expectation and dependence was justified by experience, it may be well just here to place before our eyes the figures of the treasurer, J. W. Benedict, on the credit side of the general account as printed in the appendix to the Assembly's Minutes.

By Balance from last account,	\$561 42
Contributions from churches,	16,756 68
Contributions from individuals,	750 91
Proceeds of legacies, as follows:	
Thomas S. Clark, of Pittsburgh, Pa.,	\$4,450 00
Eliza T. Warren, of Lansingburgh, N. Y.,	470 00
J. O. Shipman, of Fayetteville, N. Y.,	468 80
Elizabeth Sayre, of Romulus, N. Y.,	300 00
Susan M. Brown, of Zanesville, O.,	25 00
	5,713 80
Interest from scholarship,	488 66
The proceeds of three scholarships from bonds of United States (five-twenties), each \$1000, and two treasury notes (seven and three-tenths) each for \$1000, sold in order to meet the payment of students,	6,430 00
	<hr/>
	\$30,701 47

By inspecting this statement, it is seen that instead of the offerings of the churches and individuals advancing 41 per cent., and reaching 29,000 and upwards, they actually decline 15.7 per cent., falling to \$17,507.59.

The report very properly makes a note of the great peril to which the Committee and their beneficiaries were exposed by this trying conjunction of wants, viz., the large increase in the number of candidates demanding aid, and so serious a decline in the supplies on which they relied for ability to render aid.

How they escaped, the figures given above explain. Two unusual items appear, bearing a large proportion to the aggregate receipts, viz., "*Proceeds of Legacies*," and "*Proceeds of three Scholarships*."

About the first of January, when the Permanent Committee were met to consider the matter of the quarterly appropriation then due, the treasurer reported that about \$6000 was required to meet the calls of the candidates, while in the face of this stood an exhausted treasury. As the only relief, the Committee ordered the sale of certain securities which represented three scholarships of \$2000 each, and with the proceeds met the exigency of the hour. These scholarships had been established by the Committee themselves, out of balances in the treasury in previous years when contributions were freely flowing in, and the candidates, by the necessities of the country, were falling off. The interest of these securities had been one of the sources of income, as noticed of late years in the treasurer's accounts under the head of "*Interest from Scholarships*."

Thus was the Committee first extricated from difficulty. But this relief could not be repeated. The goose that laid the golden egg was now entirely killed. When the season occurred for the next, and also the subsequent quarterly appropriation, and the contributions from the churches were again insufficient to meet the wants of the constantly enlarging body of candidates, another special relief offered, by the favor of God, viz., legacies from deceased friends of the Cause of Education, one of them of considerable magnitude. Thus, when the living failed to support the generous youth who had made themselves dependent on our supplies, for Christ's sake and the Church, the dead were raised up to give them relief. By the same means also the Committee were enabled to recover one of the three sacrificed scholarships. The significance as well as value of this special item of "proceeds of legacies" in this place, will be appreciated in the light of the fact, that in looking through the treasurer's accounts for six years, beginning with May, 1863, when the Committee first had the whole field on their hands as now, this is the first and only instance in which it appears, as this is the only occasion on which it became necessary.

We are not surprised then at the following recognition of the Divine goodness which the report presents: "That we have been enabled to bear this increased charge, meeting promptly the claims of the generous youth who have confided in our promises, besides the expenses of the work, notwithstanding the greatly reduced collections; and that after recovering one of the three scholarships, which in our straits we were compelled to convert, we are permitted to enter upon the new year without any debt, is an occasion of gratitude and praise to the good Lord who has heard our prayers, and directed us in our perplexities, which we would not fail thus publicly to recognise and record."

It is certainly to be hoped, that the Church will not again expose its Committee to the same straits, nor its young men, who have been encouraged to cast themselves upon its support, to the hazard of disappointment and distress.

We find in the Report some facts which indicate the measure and spread of the interest in the cause of Ministerial Education. On the roll of our Church 1560 was given as the number of congregations. But only 277 contributed to the funds of the Permanent Committee during the year. This is but little more than one-sixth of all. It is true many congregations on the roll have only a nominal existence, and appear from year to year in the Assembly's Minutes barren of any returns to the common cause of evangelization. But with the largest abatements for this class, the proportion contributing to the Education Fund is strangely small. Of our 111 Presbyteries, 21 have failed to make any offering. Other Presbyteries, 22 in number, appear each by the contributions of a single church. While still 19 other Presbyteries, are represented by the offerings of only 2 churches for each.

The following table exhibits the collections, distributed synodically:—

SYNODS.	No. of Presbyteries Contributing.	No. of Churches Contributing.	Amount.
Albany,	3	7	\$132 04
Utica,	3	11	234 80
Onondaga,	4	15	817 18
Geneva,	6	16	522 76
Susquehanna,	3	11	205 53
Genesee,	5	15	447 94
New York and New Jersey, Pennsylvania,	8	43	7463 97
West Pennsylvania,	5	31	1562 09
Michigan,	3	13	1582 33
Western Reserve,	8	17	450 13
Ohio,	4	15	535 18
Ohio,	4	13	329 40
Cincinnati,	4	10	634 20
Indiana,	4	16	369 90
Wabash,	2	4	115 37
Illinois,	4	12	294 10
Peoria,	4	11	449 31
Wisconsin,	4	6	275 20
Iowa,	3	3	25 20
Minnesota,	3	4	72 35
Missouri,	2	2	197 70
Tennessee,	1	1	35 00
Alta California,	1	1	5 90
	—	—	\$16,756 68

It would, however, be unjust to the piety and benevolence of our Church to accept these figures as the absolute measure of contributions to Ministerial Education. They are an exact statement of what is given to the treasury of the Permanent Committee. But looking into the minutes of the General Assembly, and taking the statistics as given by the several churches to their Presbyteries, and by the Presbyteries rendered to the Assembly, we have another measure. Here the number of contributing churches swells from 277 to 385, and the number of non-contributing Presbyteries recedes from 20 to 11. This certainly is better. But still it is only 385 out of all the congregations, that have made any gathering for Ministerial Education. And there are still *eleven* Presbyteries within whose bounds the matter seems to have been wholly ignored.

In the Minutes, we find the amount reported under the head of Education from all the churches, has risen to \$33,678; or as it should be, by the correction of an error in the footing of one of the Presbyteries (as

explained in a note below) \$28,703. That is, there is credited to the churches, in their statistical records, \$11,197 more than was received by the Committee from the contributions of congregations and individuals together.

How large a proportion of this difference was used directly in aid of candidates seeking the ministry, we are unable to state positively. We have reason to know that \$5000 of it was appropriated to the permanent endowment of literary institutions, leaving a little more than \$6000, which we presume has been used in aid of students not on the Committee's roll.

NOTE.—The error referred to above in the amount of contributions reported in the Minutes grows out of misplacing the decimal point. In the statistical report of the Presbytery of Cortland, the amount set down against the church of Freetown as \$325, should probably be \$3.25, which is their contribution to the Education Committee; and the footing of the whole column, which is given as \$5025, should be \$50.25. This error of course re-appears in the final footing of the returns of all the Synods.

Notes of Travel.

The Secretaries of the General Assembly's Committees seek to visit as many of the Synods as they can at their Autumnal Sessions. In the case of the Publication Committee, it is difficult for the Secretary to do this, as he is also Editor of the Committee's Publications, and cannot easily leave his office and desk; but it is the more desirable, because this Committee employs no District Secretaries, and all the responsibility for securing funds for its work devolves upon the same officer. Nor can those put in charge of the benevolent movements of our branch of the Church dispense with the education received by mingling with the representatives of the churches in various parts of our wide field. Some notes from the journey to the Synods of 1868 (though written *currente calamo*,) may prove not devoid of interest and instruction. Passing by, for the present, the Eastern States and Synods, we begin with the Northwest.

Chicago.

Every fresh visit to this fitly termed "young giant of the Northwest" adds to the visitor's admiration, and almost inspires him with awe. Its wonderful growth, not in numbers merely, but in every evidence of enterprise and wealth, amazes him. Well will it be if, in the rush of worldly prosperity, its material success does not overtop its spiritual forces, and secularism be dominant over an out-voted and overpowered Christian minority.

It is satisfactory, whilst viewing the

advancing power of Chicago, to note the evidences of very marked energy in Church extension on the part of our own denomination. Our brethren of Chicago deserve great credit for their courage and activity in this respect. Dr. Patterson, their Nestor, happily is free from that ecclesiastical selfishness which would look coldly on new organizations and nurse its own. His own congregation is strong, though so many others have arisen beside it. But the old Second church will soon have to move. Business is surrounding it, and

the location will be yielded to commerce, and the edifice reared again in some more convenient part of the city. The old stones, however, will be retained, and give to the new "Second church" identity with the old, now so well known by its characteristic colors. The stone of which it is built exudes a bitumen, which gives to the building an appearance of age quite delightful in this young region. The First church, which surrendered Dr. Z. M. Humphrey to Philadelphia, is expecting the Rev. Arthur Mitchell, of Morristown, New Jersey, and looking for a fresh vigor in good works under his pastorate.

The Railroad Mission.

"The Railroad Mission" connected with this church is one of the lions of Chicago. It is truly a sight worth seeing. Starting with a dozen children, in a railroad car beside a depot, it has grown to a school of twelve hundred pupils. Entering a plain, large building, I found the doors barred, as the school exercises had commenced. Soon they were opened by the door-keeper. Within, what a scene it was! A hundred and two classes, with a superintendent, two assistant superintendents, secretary, librarian, three aisle managers, one hundred and two teachers, and perhaps a thousand scholars present—they often exceed this number. Black and white, German and American, children and adults—all are received. It is a *mission*. One of the most efficient men in Chicago gives to it his entire time, receiving a salary for his services. Meetings are held here during the week as well as on Sunday evening.

Our Churches.

The Third church has an excellent building and an excellent pastor, Rev. Arthur Swazey. The Eighth church have secured the Rev. Lewis H. Reid, lately of Syracuse, New York, and are in fine spirits, having made arrangements for the payment of the debt of their church. It is a very pretty structure, of wood, with an unusual number of good arrangements for church work. The Ninth, also a new church, Rev. Alfred

Eddy, pastor, has a handsome stone house of worship. To the Seventh, Rev. John McLeish ministers; to the Westminster, Rev. David Swing, whom we took from the "other branch;" to Calvary, Rev. Wm. C. Dickinson, late of Hyde Park; and to the Olivet church, Rev. Nelson Millard. Still another church is projected, and the work begun under Rev. J. S. McConnell, whom we have taken from the "United Presbyterians." The Rev. D. S. Johnson has succeeded Mr. Dickinson in the Hyde Park church.

Thus our Chicago brethren are sending forth colonies and starting new organizations. They are well meeting the heavy responsibility thrown upon them for the spiritual supply of their city.

Rome and Worldliness.

Rome is here in full force, in churches for the Irish and for the Germans, and anti-puritanism is a powerful element in Society.

In the Roman Catholic churches a lively conflict is in progress between the Bishop and his clergy supported by the people. The people will find authority too strong for them. Rome will not countenance insubordination. Unitarianism too has here a subcentre, and seeks by its publications, missions, and colporteur work to form churches in the West. Its report does not give a promising picture, though its "liberal views" it finds very acceptable to young men who do not want a religion that will restrain them as Calvinism does. No doubt of it! Though false religions loom largely up in Chicago, its great danger is from worldliness. Material growth so rapid develops a materialism of heart that must be met by spiritual life and earnestness.

The buildings, the wonders and sights of Chicago, we must leave for secular journals. Interesting as they are, we have not space for them in our MONTHLY. We left the metropolis of the northeast rejoicing that it has so faithful a band of Christian workers to stand as witnesses for Christ amid its rush of

worldly activities. It now claims a population of three hundred thousand.

Milwaukee.

Eighty-five miles north of Chicago, we find Milwaukee, the chief city of Wisconsin. As a site for a city and suburbs, its location is magnificent. Seated upon a rolling bluff rising a hundred feet above the blue waters of Lake Michigan, it has all the advantages for drainage and building, beauty and health furnished by such a location. It is divided into two parts by the Milwaukee River. Its "down town" has the aspect of a business mart; its upper streets are lined with residences separated by liberal yards; and its suburbs are charming with changing views of wooded and rolling ground. Milwaukee brick is of a cream color when burnt and gives a very soft and agreeable shade to the buildings of the city. It claims a population of ninety thousand. If it has not this number it soon will have it, as it increases at the rate of ten thousand a year, and adds to its school list a hundred pupils per month. It is one half German, and famous for lager beer; challenging the world on this important item.

Milwaukee Churches.

Here, as in almost every Western city, the most prominent ecclesiastical structures are the massive Roman Catholic churches and seminaries. Sixty thousand dollars has just been expended in repairing and improving St. Mary's church. But infidelity is more to be dreaded in this community than Rome.

There are four Congregational churches in Milwaukee and two Presbyterian churches. These two represent the two branches. In our church we are represented by the Rev. H. Eddy, a brave, good and earnest man. He had the honor of dedicating the Libby Prison at Richmond, having been taken prisoner at the battle of Bull Run. Though a chaplain he was held as a prisoner of war for a year. His church is known as the "Side-wheel church," it having been enlarged on its right and left sides and so taken the crucial

form. As both of the Presbyterian churches are on the same side of the town, it is proposed that our church move to the west side, and leave the east to the Old School Church. This will in all probability be done, and we may look for a new and handsome edifice with an active congregation. We need to do more missionary work in Wisconsin. It is a splendid State, but we are weaker in it than in other Western States. The union with Congregationalists in a convention almost forbade any Presbyterian Church Extension until within a few years. It is time for us to be more earnestly and actively engaged in mission work through its Synod. Rev. B. G. Riley now labors for its mission churches, but he needs, to co-operate with him, one or two able and self-denying Evangelists, to go from town to town preaching, collecting Christians, and organizing churches.

The sign of the "Young Men's Christian Association" boldly fronting the street, is grateful to the Christian traveller here, as in many of our young cities of the West.

Minnesota.

Of Minnesota and its Synod, we have so much to say that we must defer it for another MONTHLY, or make our notes too long. Its Synod held a delightful session at Minneapolis, one that was enjoyed and felt to be profitable by all. Its memory will not soon be lost. But it will not do to speak of it here.

Iowa.

Iowa is midway between Missouri and Minnesota in character and climate as in geographical situation. With its fifty-five thousand square miles of territory, it has very little waste land. Though now claiming a population of one million, where till recently the Indian and the buffalo alone disputed the possession of the plain, a vast part of its soil lies virgin, untouched by plow or spade. To the traveller, it presents the aspect of a vast field awaiting the industry of man. Not

only is this State rich in the possession of a fruitful soil, black and deep, adapted both to grains and grazing, but also in mineral resources.

Dubuque.

Dubuque, where I entered the State, lies in a basin of magnesian limestone, thirty miles in diameter, profusely intersected with heavy veins of lead ore. Further west, coal is mined. Fine limestone for building or burning is abundant. The immigration into the State is now very large. Dubuque has twenty-five thousand inhabitants. Further down the Mississippi, Davenport has about the same. The pastor of our church in Dubuque is the Rev. S. G. Spees, D.D. His congregation are now worshipping in the lower story of their house of worship. When completed it will be a fine brick structure. It will take fifteen thousand dollars to finish it, but after a long delay, the people "have a mind to build," and the work is to be immediately begun and carried forward. The plan for payment is by monthly subscriptions, a very good plan. The Old School Church is of wood and smaller; it has been much distracted by internal difficulties.

The Synod of Iowa.

The Synod of Iowa had a good meeting at Dubuque. The discussions were earnest and the spirit fraternal. The people were much pleased with its men, their preaching, their bearing, and their spirit. The subject of educational institutions within the State occupied more of their attention than any other topic. The leaning of the Synod was towards an institution, not a college, but a theological seminary with a preparatory department, having for its immediate object the training of young men for the ministry. The Synod already has the nucleus of such an institution, and the prospect of an addition to the fund for its endowment. In the Home Mission work, the Synod now has the Rev. William Campbell, of Adel, as its District Secretary, an earnest worker, but it asks for another man to divide the State with him. It cannot be doubted that another

agent is needed for this work in so large, so new, and so needy a State as this. We are outnumbered in Iowa twice by the Congregationalists, and more than that by our Old School brethren. There is much land yet to be possessed, and we should do our full share in founding in this fine State the permanent institutions of religion.

Cedar Rapids.

At Cedar Rapids on the Cedar River, Southwest of Dubuque, Dr. Ellinwood and myself tarried for awhile, finding a neat little town, and a promising church under the care of the Rev. James Knox. The present house of worship is soon to be left for a beautiful and tasteful edifice, constructed of a fine, cream-colored limestone. Dr. Ellinwood, under the caption of "The Little Muddy," has given in the Church Erection department of our present number a sketch of the suggestive history of this church, which I need not repeat. The Parsons Seminary at this place is an object of much interest to the Synod of Iowa.

Westward.

Westward our way sweeps from Cedar Rapids to the Missouri River at Council Bluffs, and well may the tide of life also sweep westward to find homes. The country is a rolling prairie, much of it unbroken by the plow, and giving every evidence of fertility. Iowa will send her cereals both westward and eastward, as she now does, for years to come. Lumber she draws from Minnesota and Michigan, and with it she is building neat little towns along the lines of railroad, with which her territory is being spanned. For these young towns of Iowa and other new States it is that our Committees of Education, Home Missions, Church Erection, and Publication need to supply men and means. The work is great, but also delightful, blessed, and full of hope.

At Council Bluffs, after threading our way through its hilly border lands, I first saw the Missouri River, here more than two thousand miles from the Gulf. The Upper Mississippi is clear and bril-

liant; the Missouri is turbid and dull. Sweeping through a wide bottom land, it is ever shifting its channel, cutting away its bank on one side, and depositing bars of sand and clay on the other. It is reached at Council Bluffs by a troublesome approach over a causeway, and crossed by a steam ferry to Omaha, the juvenile metropolis of Nebraska. Standing upon its bank was a group of Pawnee Indians, braves, squaws and piccaninny, remnants of a hated and decaying race, soon to give place to the stronger and ever aggressive white man.

Omaha.

Upon the rising slopes of the Western bluffs of the Missouri is this growing and yet to grow town. Already it has seventeen or eighteen thousand inhabitants, and is advancing marvelously. It is one of the chief gateways of the West. Yes, here you find that you have reached the threshold of that "Great West" of which we speak. Here go forth the cars of the Union Pacific Railroad into the vast regions between the Missouri and the Pacific slope. But I must not enter upon that large topic.

At Omaha our church is now worshipping with the Congregationalists, but it expects soon to enter its own house of worship. This is a fine structure of brick dressed with stone, a capital piece of workmanship and nearly done. The Rev. F. A. Dimmick, the author of "Anna Clayton," is the pastor and father of the church. Perseveringly has he toiled during the day of small things; long may he be permitted to labor in his important post, and much good to see as the result of his works, words, and prayers. It was pleasant to meet his people in their evening gathering for conference and prayer. Omaha is the central point for a field of church enterprise that is now just opening. It is greatly to be desired that we should at once enter upon it. To do this our Committees must be liberally sustained and enabled to devise and execute liberal things. Oh that

our entire membership were filled with a holy enthusiasm in the work of giving the gospel to our beloved land!

Omaha to St. Joseph.

From Omaha my road was down the valley of the Missouri to St. Joseph, the chief town of Northwest Missouri; and a delightful ride it proved. The crossing by ferry of the shifting, bank depositing and bank removing Missouri River, spoke of a new country and of much work for the future. An hour and a half was given for getting from Omaha to the Council Bluffs station on the east bank. The projected iron bridge, which is to link Iowa to Nebraska at this point, will save an enormous amount of hauling and handling. At present, all the government and army stores, the railroad material, the provisions and wares, that come by rail, must be transferred with great labor over a wide and bad approach, and then by boat, to the Omaha side. The inchoate state of affairs at the Council Bluffs' depot was rather gratifying to an Eastern man, as an evidence that he had reached at least the beginning of the "Great West," its threshold, if no more. Yet in this western region, the car in which I rode was new, and one of the finest I have seen in any State, truly luxurious with its seats of yielding velvet and its entire freshness and cleanliness. The day was fine, mild and sunshiny. Our route lay on the east side of the Missouri, through the level savannah that lies between it and the bluffs. The clay bluffs are so grooved and serried as to be picturesque out of proportion to their altitude, and their shrubbery was now so mottled with red and brown, crimson and yellow, as to afford views of great beauty. The bottom land is rich, much of it still untouched by human industry and affording grazing to cattle, which are almost hidden by its tall grass. The farms show tall corn and hemp, but poor houses. As yet the march of improvement has done little for this district: its fertility will in due time attract to it a greater and more wide awake popula-

tion. The distance from Council Bluffs to St. Joseph, by rail, is one hundred and thirty-two miles.

St. Joseph.

St. Joseph, or as it is familiarly styled, St. Joe, stands upon the left bank of the Missouri River, five hundred and sixty-five miles above St. Louis, and is the western terminus of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad. It is built upon the rolling clay hills known as "the bluffs," with no room for the grief of Chicago, lack of drainage. In the rainy season small streams cut these hills into gullies, giving a most thorough inequality to the surface. The town, starting on the plain, was forced by its growth up the hills. Now, with the new development which it has received since the war from Eastern immigration, the city, as it must be called, takes on a new phase of progress—grading is the order of the day. A house built upon the hill finds itself left aloft, with its new neighbor's chimnies on a level with its front door. The wells of the old regime are stript by the grading-pick and left with their circular walls exposed and standing twenty-five feet above the pavement and abreast of the roofs of the modern houses. The Court House plot, on the summit of the bluff, is being cut away, and the Court House will be rebuilt on the plain that is being made below.

Changes.

A similar change is going forward in the society and business of St. Joseph. During the war, the greater part of its social force was upon the side of the rebellion. The war strife rent society into blood-stained divisions and paralysed its business. Peace brought to it an immediate revival of enterprise. It now claims a population of thirty thousand, and is growing with great rapidity. Its solid blocks of business houses, built of good red bricks, and the bustle and stir of its streets, make the impression of a city in vigorous life and growth. It has become a northwestern, in place of a southwestern town, yet withal decidedly western.

Its Churches.

The churches of St. Joseph, like the city, seem to be entering upon an era of progress. Whilst there are several old church buildings, generally of bricks made from the clay of the bluffs, a number of new houses of worship are going up, and among them three Presbyterian churches. The old school church, which has been worshipping in the basement of its edifice, is completing its upper and main room, though weakened by the exodus of a large part of its body. Those, known as "Declaration and Testimony men," with southern proclivities, have forsaken the church of the north, and are erecting a very substantial and large brick church just over against that of their former co-worshippers. Not far away is the stone chapel occupied by our own brethren of the Westminster church; in itself a handsome little church, but, we trust, to be the little sister of the larger structure for which the ground is reserved beside it. This congregation has endured a great fight of afflictions. During the war it struggled for its life, under the odium of an unswerving loyalty, and its present building has been completed only by the noblest devotion on the part of its members and the generous aid of our Church Erection Fund. Christians from the older States will here find a congenial home under the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Bullard, son of the late Dr. Bullard of St. Louis. Religion here has to contend with Romanism on the one hand, and with worldliness on the other, with their allies, whisky and immorality. But they that be with us are more than they that be with them. In God is our hope.

From St. Joseph to Kansas City.

From St. Joseph southward to Kansas City there is now a railway line. It runs through the rich bottom lands of the Missouri valley. The immense size of the timber tells of a generous soil. The houses are, however, generally log huts, or small framed structures of the Southern type with chimnies outside. On the high land back from this river the homes

are of a high order. Weston, Mo., is quite a town. Here our late Brother Starr labored until expelled by border ruffianism for his anti-lavery sentiments. The old leaven is still strong in Weston, and our church and parsonage there are now unoccupied. It is a field that calls for a man wise, firm and self-denying.

At Leavenworth you take stage, and after a long approach, are ferried across the Missouri to the Kansas side, and go on in the cars to Wyandotte, State Line, and Kansas City.

Kansas City.

Here we find another of these wonderful western cities. The landing on the river, of a few years since, with its few houses on the bank, has become the city of to-day with its twenty thousand people, and its magnificent visions of the future. An astonished flock of wild geese passed over head, as I stood on the portico of the chief hotel of the place, and expressed with loud quacks their amazement at finding such strange changes in the bluffs at the mouth of the river; and no wonder is it that they should! Like St. Joseph, only more so, Kansas City is a place of most glorious inequalities. The high, pitching hills of the bluff are being cut and carved, dug out and filled in, with a boldness amazing. The present result is a most topsy-turvy, higglety-pigglety surface, where you can have the ups and downs of a life-time in half a day. But I am convinced that Kansas City is one of the large American towns of the not distant future. It will be the next of the series, west of St. Louis. Its railroad prospects are grand. Five, perhaps seven roads, will here converge at an early day. The Pacific Railway (not the Pacific Railroad, but the Southwestern line) already extends nearly four hundred miles to the west of it; and a line yet to be constructed southward to Galveston, Texas, will bring it within seven hundred miles of the Gulf of Mexico, and shipping, in place of the fourteen hundred miles which separate it from New York and Philadelphia. West and

Southwest of it stretches a magnificent country.

The Synod of Missouri.

But the interest of Kansas City, for me, centered in the Sessions of the Synod of Missouri. Three years ago our brave and beloved brother, Rev. Timothy Hill, left a comfortable Illinois settlement to come hither and build a church on no other man's foundation. Now he has the privilege of entertaining the best Synod in size and strength that our church in Missouri has seen.

Into the details of its business it is not needful to go. In its revived and hopeful state we greatly rejoice. Looking back to the days when, for its loyalty to freedom and the Government, it was torn, stripped, and almost destroyed, we exclaim "What hath God wrought!" In 1861 five men met to perpetuate its life. Only three years since it was a little handful, gathered in the basement of the North Church of St. Louis. Now, when I entered the door, and looked upon a company of earnest men, fifty strong, my heart was full of joy. "With my staff," may its veterans say, "did I pass over this Jordan and now am I become two bands." Yes, two bands—

A New Synod.

For at this Session of the Synod of Missouri, the Presbytery of Kansas was divided into three Presbyteries, Kansas, Humboldt, and Smoky Hill, with the intention of overturing the next Assembly for the formation from them of a new Synod of Kansas.

The Forward Movement.

The whole atmosphere of the Synod was instinct with the spirit of a bold advance, a forward movement of the church into unoccupied regions in the two States, which present so loud a call for such enterprise. Would that our whole body were pervaded with this spirit! Would that we were awake to the emergency that is upon us, that we were aroused to the self-devotion and self-consecration demanded of the people of God in this land by the times in which

we live! Never was the call more imperative or more attractive for an earnest engagement in mission work for the present and the future of this country. But we must not here venture on this broad theme.

The Synod was served by Mr. Whitaker, of Jefferson City, as Moderator, and Messrs. Morton of St. Louis, and Parsons, of Ottawa, Kansas, as clerks. The reports of the churches were full of interest.

With the pioneersmen of these regions, nor is it less true of the older workers here than of the younger, the words "Education," "Publication," "Church Erection," &c., are not empty sounds, much less the symbols of too pressing applicants, of ecclesiastical daughters of the horse leech, ever crying "give! give!" On the contrary, they represent the sources of strength and encouragement, the co-operators with them in the work to which they are consecrated. The men of Missouri and Kansas are sustained largely by our Committee of Home Missions, supplied with books and tracts by our Publication Committee, and aided in the erection of houses of worship by the Church Erection Fund. To them our "Causes" are effects.

Ten Men Ordained.

But the crowning interest of the Synod was in the ordination, on Sunday evening, October 4th, of ten young men to the work of the ministry, by the Presbyteries of Lexington and Kansas. Such a sight has never been seen west of the Mississippi—rarely east of it. It was a sight to fill the heart with joy. The Baptist Church being the largest in the place, was kindly put at the disposal of the Synod, and was crowded by an eagerly attentive congregation. The sermon was preached by Rev. D. M. Moore of Lawrence, Kansas. Ten noble young men, nine of them from Union Theological Seminary, then rose and responded to the constitutional questions put by the Rev. V. M. King, of Baldwin, Kansas. They kneeled before the pulpit, the ordaining prayer was offered by

Rev. T. S. Reeve, of Savannah, Mo., and they were set apart to the work of the ministry as Evangelists by the laying on the hands of the two Presbyteries.

Rarely have I enjoyed a more blessed privilege than that of giving the right hand of fellowship to these earnest and promising recruits to the missionary army. It was an hour solemn, joyful, delightful; in the present, yielding gratitude to God—for the future, big with hope and glad anticipations of good things for the cause of Christ.

The charge to the newly ordained Evangelists was given by Mr. Hill, of Kansas City, through whose appeals they were in a large degree drawn to these fields. It was earnest, practical, affectionate, wise, sound.

The appointment of the Rev. T. Hill to the District Secretaryship of Home Missions for Western Missouri and Kansas, is eminently fit and acceptable, but is a trial to his church at Kansas City. The Rev. George P. Folsom, late of Geneseo, New York, was gladly welcomed also as the new Western District Secretary for Church Erection. My own reception, as the representative of the Publication Committee, was most kind and cordial. Much interest is taken in this arm of our operations by these brethren, as they greatly need its help. Messrs. Hill and Lewis were appointed a Committee to secure means for the establishment of a depot of our Publications at Kansas City.

The names of the newly ordained brethren are,

Charles H. McCreery, for Chetopa, Kansas.

James Lewis, Humboldt, Kansas.

Samuel A. Stoddard, Holton, Kansas.

Charles B. Blanchard, Garnett, Kansas.

Benjamin F. McNeil, Kansas.

Theodore F. Jessup, Kansas.

Theodore Y. Gardner, Kansas.

Duncan C. Milner, Osceola, Mo.

Joseph G. Brown, Clinton, Mo.

Duncan McNaughten, Morristown, Mo.

May the blessing of God be with them, and may their lives be fruitful in good works! What changes may they not live to see in the States of Missouri and Kansas! Now is the time for the Church of Christ to take

possession of these nascent empires, with their sister States on the North and South, East and West. Their future will be largely determined by what we now do.

Church Erection.

"THE LITTLE MUDDY."

BY THE SECRETARY.

Such is the popular name of a pleasant but peculiar little Church at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. On a recent tour of the State we enjoyed a delightful evening prayer-meeting within its hallowed walls.

The freshness and aroma of a recent revival was still about the place, and the remarks and prayers which were offered, indicated grateful appreciation for mercies already received and hope for still greater gifts to come.

It is a great thing for a Church to have learned to *expect* such things.

But to the history of the little tabernacle itself over which the shekinah has thus hovered. Years ago, during the pastorate of the late Rev. Williston Jones, the people felt a strong desire for a church edifice. The pastor resolved that with God's help there *should* be one and that at once. Aid was applied for and received from the Church Erection Fund, but the season was unfavorable for obtaining either lumber or brick. But where there is a will there is a way. The indefatigable pastor gathered his willing helpers about him and partly with his own hands, and wholly by his direction, reared the four walls with grout or concrete formed from the earth itself—the latter being a kind of material with which the West might be said to abound. The object was accomplished and God was worshipped in His Holy Temple made emphatically with hands. In due time (tell it not to Ruskin) a wooden tower was prefixed which still confronts

you with an air of conscious and innocent self-respect.

Later, as the congregation grew, a rear extension of brick was appended, (this is what is meant by composite architecture on the prairies,) but still the place became again too strait. Four or five infant churches in the region round about had been organized, partly from the membership of this parent hive. And yet with all this, some new freak of architecture must be resorted to. Necessity is always ingenious, and a half transept or wing with clapboard covering was the last triumphant result.

But no, not quite the last. Voila! As we look over the top of this rare structure in the clear moonlight, we see on the next street a magnificent church of magnesian limestone, whose creamy richness of color we have never seen excelled. It is the phoenix of Little Muddy and one of the prettiest churches in all the West. Its architecture though a little Romanistic or Papistic, is chaste and beautiful, a credit to the congregation and the growing town of Cedar Rapids.

It is not yet completed, but the adieu to the hallowed Muddy cannot be far away. As we contemplate this little history of church effort and success we are led to exclaim "What hath God wrought." The glory is His alone.

Yet, in a subordinate sense, we cannot but honor the persistent zeal of Williston Jones and the ready aid given by the people. And is there not also in this case a clear example of the value of the Church Erection Fund? The amount of aid rendered was not large, but it was indispensably important to

that feeble beginning, and what a glorious investment it has proved to be! It was an outlay which has not only borne constant fruit, but has perpetuated itself—branching out into new sources of power, and taking on new forms of beauty and influence. And yet what we have seen thus far is only a part of what has been done. While the new church has been gradually rising into its present great proportions, a Presbyterian seminary or college building has been erected by the same people at a cost of about eighteen thousand dollars. Eighty acres of beautiful land in the suburbs had been donated for such an institution by Mr. Coe, of Durham, New York, under conditions which required the erection of buildings at this time. It was not a favorable time for the people to undertake a second task, but it was an opportunity not to be lost, and it has been nobly met. May such examples be widely imitated.

FROM KANSAS.

I was sent out here a few weeks ago as a missionary by our Committee, one of the band from Union Seminary who have come to occupy this field of Kansas. A little church was organized here on the 4th of this month. The prospect of doing a great work for the Master is the very brightest. I thank God for having directed my steps hither. Of course we are yet feeble and are obliged to appeal to you for aid. I will briefly give you the facts.

1st. The location.—It is the county seat of _____ Co., Kansas, about fifty-five miles due south of Lawrence, on the route of the Leavenworth, Lawrence, Galveston Railroad. This road is completed as far as Ottawa, and is being pushed on to this place, which by the contract it is bound to reach by the 15th of January next. The town is growing rapidly, settled by a very intelligent and energetic class of people, largely from Ohio. The population about eight hundred. It is not like many other western towns ahead of the country, but in the midst

of a well settled country. There is but one church building here, that of the United Presbyterian Church. The Methodists worship in a hall. The people are very desirous of having a church of our order established here, and I have been received with a warm welcome by all. So much for the town.

2d. The church and society.—The membership at the organization was and is but *twelve*; New and Old School Presbyterians and Congregationalists in the number and all heartily united. I have already found enough now to unite with us at our next communion in October to *double* our membership, and there are others yet to be seen. Our society will be quite large and embraces some of the most influential men of the place, who will give liberally to our support.

3d. Our needs.—We are *entirely destitute* of a place of worship, without even a hall or school house, and are dependent upon our United Presbyterian and Methodist brethren, and of course have to take our afternoon or evening appointment sometimes in one place and sometimes in the other, when we can get it. We decided that if we would live we must have a house of our own put up *this fall*. Encouraged by offers of aid made by the Church to feeble churches from the Erection Fund, we determined to make every effort among ourselves and then appeal to you for help. As desirable lots as there are in the town have been given us. We want to put up a small frame, which, while it will be comfortable, convenient and attractive, will be as cheap as possible. The plan which we have adopted can be put up for one thousand and seven hundred dollars. We have raised among ourselves one thousand dollars, which, in consideration of the fact that the crops here have been almost an entire failure for two years, last year on account of grasshoppers and this a local drought, I think you will admit is quite a large amount. If it were a prosperous year I think we should be able to build alone and not trouble you. As it is we must

ask you to aid us to the amount of five hundred dollars. If we can rely upon the fund for that amount we will raise the other two hundred here somehow, and put up our house at once. I know this is a large amount to ask, but with it we shall be on our feet and in a fair way of very soon, not only becoming self-supporting, but of being able to pay back, with interest, into the treasury of the Lord the amount we have received therefrom. While without it, though we shall by no means give up, yet we shall be obliged to struggle on under the greatest disadvantage, and in the end prove a heavier burden to the church.

ILLINOIS.

Rev. David Dimond, Anna.

A Building Completed and Dedicated.

Our house of worship, on which the attention and efforts of this church have been concentrated is completed, and was dedicated 28th of June. It is thirty-six feet by sixty, with vestibule and recess, making the entire length seventy-four feet. The audience room is lofty, finely colored, lighted, ventilated, and furnished. There is a very tasteful tower, and the village newspaper pronounces the structure to be "the pride and ornament of the town." We were favored with a pleasant day for the dedication service, but were disappointed as regards the promised presence of brethren in the ministry. The house was filled to its utmost with people who felt the exhilaration of what is to us an elegant and commodious edifice. I asked the assembly to contribute five hundred and fifty dollars to make up the deficiency in the funds of the building committee. In a few minutes that sum was subscribed together with fifty dollars more to build a fence around the lot or for some similar object. The church members having previously contributed pretty fully, this subscription was chiefly from others. Then followed the act of dedication, and the congregation retired in the best spirits, the church and the minister filled with gratitude to God

and with renewed attachment to the Home Missionary and Church Erection Committee.

The entire cost of the structure has been three thousand five hundred and sixty dollars, of which seven hundred was granted from the Church Erection Fund, and includes two hundred and sixty raised by our ladies for furniture, besides a cabinet organ at two hundred and fifty dollars.

The Sunday after the dedication, we observed the Lord's Supper. Eight persons were added to the church, some of them from the world, and baptism was administered to a family of four children and to an adult. It appears to me that a career of prosperity is opening to this church.

SYNODICAL ACTION.

The Synod of West Pennsylvania, at its recent meeting in New Castle, adopted unanimously the following preamble and resolution:

"Whereas, The Publication cause in connection with our denomination is, in our judgment, a needful and vitally important auxiliary to every other department of Christian effort, being designed and fitted to advance and diffuse evangelical knowledge and intelligence, and to excite and promote the spirit of practical fellowship and co-operation in Christian living and well-doing, both throughout the church and in her respective congregations, therefore,

"Resolved, That we urge upon all our congregations, the feeble as well as the relatively strong, to make at least annual collections for the Publication Cause, and also to patronize the publications of the Publication Committee, and especially to extend the circulation of our well-conducted and excellent PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY.

"Resolved, That it is earnestly commended to the Presbyteries and Church Sessions constituting this Synod to see to it that the above resolution be carried into effect."

Home Missionary Intelligence.

MICHIGAN.

Rev. E. H. Tanner, Grand Ledge.

Mr. T. has two places of preaching, Grand Ledge and Oneida. He says that houses of worship are being built at both of these points.

Grand Ledge.

Our chapel here is twenty by forty feet, with belfry, is very neatly enclosed and partly painted; inside joiner work is done except pulpit. Seats are finished, made moveable so that we can use the house for Sabbath-school purposes. It is located in a pleasant part of the village, on a lot large enough for another house of worship when the society shall become able to enlarge it. The chapel sets up well, and will be an airy and pleasant place of worship. Our community are becoming more and more interested in it and us, and anxious to have it ready for meetings.

We intend to start a Sabbath-school just as soon as we get into our new house; we feel greatly encouraged. If the Lord will pour us out a blessing this next winter, we may hope to become a means of great good to this people.

Our services are held each Sabbath afternoon, and are very well attended. We have a prosperous and growing village here, all American people; we are expecting this will become a large place. It has good water power, plenty of stone, lime and coal. We only need a railway to secure a large and rapid growth, and of this we now have a good prospect, one running from Lansing through here to Ionia.

Oneida.

At Oneida our meetings are held each Sabbath morning, the school house in which we worship is generally filled; a Sabbath-school, of from thirty to forty in attendance, is held immediately after morning services. This is an old church and society, more than twenty years old. It is composed entirely of

farmers, a most intelligent and thrifty community. For years the church merely held its own, had only occasional supplies from abroad. But the church is more active and prosperous now, is growing in numbers, strength, and influence. One by letter and three on profession of faith united with us at the last communion. A most interesting class of young people are coming up. God it seems is preparing them to take the places of the old folks.

The society is endeavoring to complete their house of worship; they have it enclosed, partly painted, but it is a pretty heavy burden upon them, and they get along slowly; hope the house may be ready this fall, but it is doubtful.

I have just received a letter from the Church Erection Committee, promising us three hundred dollars, on sending in a formal application, but this will not finish the house, so I fear we must delay our application.

Our wheat crop is excellent, never more sown, never a better yield, from twenty-five to thirty bushels per acre. Business is reviving, hard times we hope will pass away.

Rev. A. Marsh, Portland.

Struggling to free the Church of Debt.

At our communion season in July we received four members to our church. All of them had made a previous profession of religion, but one of them had lost her letter of dismission and united with us upon profession of her faith. One was a gentleman who moved into our neighborhood last spring. He had been for several years an elder in a church in New York.

We have tried to do something during the quarter towards the liquidation of the debt on our house of worship. Although we have not met with entire success, yet we are encouraged. We have obtained pledges from our own people amounting to nearly two hun-

dred dollars. Our ladies held a festival on the fourth of July, and applied fifty dollars from the proceeds towards the indebtedness. Our application to the Church Election Committee has not been granted on account of a defect in our title. We are now trying to remedy the defect.

I was away from my people last Sabbath with my brother at Hastings. I expect to be gone next Sabbath at Ada. The church there is unsupplied. I go to see if I can do anything to encourage and help them. It is possible also that I may spend a Sabbath at Stanton in Montcalm county. We have invitations to go there and take measures for the organization of a church.

On the whole our little church here finds no reason for discouragement, but would rather thank God and go forward. We have now forty-six names on our list of members.

ILLINOIS.

Rev. G. A. Pollock, Tower Hill.

Mr. P. preaches at two places, Tower Hill and Prairie Bird.

The quarterly communion season in both churches, would have been during the last month had we followed the regular order, but owing to the intense heat and the busy time of harvest both were deferred until the present month.

I have preached and visited regularly (except when absent at the General Assembly) and received two persons, one by letter and the other by profession, to membership in the churches at this place.

Everything is pleasant and encouraging at the *Prairie Bird Church*, and although several have connected with the Tower Hill church, I regret that many have stood aloof on account of existing troubles among its members. I fear sometimes there is far too much anxiety to organize new churches and too great a desire to swell the numbers at the organization, gathering together a heterogeneous mass without any assimilation. I hope in time things will

improve here; if it were not for this hope I could not remain. A church festival was held here and something over fifty dollars realized, which was appropriated to furnishing the church. Our Sabbath-schools are both prospering finely, well attended, and much interest manifested.

WISCONSIN.

Rev. Benjamin Wells, Rural.

Encouraged.

When I came here in May, I found the church greatly needing and anxiously waiting for a minister. For the last six months they were without preaching, except as they were supplied occasionally by the minister at Waupaca, our county seat, five miles distant. During that time, they were waiting for Brother Riley, our Synodical Missionary, to send them a man. And as I was expecting to close my labors, at West Creek, Indiana, the last of April, I began to cast about for another location. A few weeks previous to that time, I commenced a correspondence with Brother Riley, who informed me of this place, and gave me an urgent invitation to visit the church. This favorable combination of circumstances led me to think that perhaps this was the field designed by Providence for me to occupy. I accordingly agreed to visit the church, and preach the first Sabbath in May, and when I came, I found the people expecting me, and they gave me a cordial welcome, and the result of this visit is, that I am now their minister, and I have removed my family here.

This is the first effort which the church have ever made to sustain a minister *all the time*. For several years, and ever since their organization, they have had ministers only in connection with Waupaca, and they have never had a minister who lived in the village. In undertaking now to sustain a minister *alone*, they have taken hold *vigorously* and raised more than double the amount that they had formerly done. But in doing this, they

have had to depend largely on worldly men to aid them in raising the salary, as the church is small.

I found the church sadly in need of *pastoral labor*, and soon found that if I succeeded in interesting the community outside of the church, in attending the sanctuary, I must visit them at their *homes*. The people *crave* such labor, and my imperfect efforts to perform it, have been well received, and the people of the village generally attend our church, which is the only one in the place. Our Sabbath morning congregations average seventy or seventy-three, and on one occasion numbered ninety; we have also a five o'clock service, which I attend about every other Sabbath. When there I preach, and on the intermediate Sabbath afternoons there is a prayer meeting. I have two monthly outpost appointments. We have a good Sabbath-school, which is increasing in numbers and interest. We are well supplied with Sabbath-school papers, but we need an addition to our library.

We have a good house of worship, which was built six or seven years ago, while Rev. Mr. Ashmun, who organized the church, was laboring here and at Waupaca. The success of the enterprise was due in a great measure, I am told, to his exertion and business tact. The church had purchased a bell, a short time before I came here, and now contemplate getting an organ.

MISSOURI.

Rev. W. S. Post, D.D., Sulphur Springs.

A Successful Workman.

When I came to this field I went to work with all my might. I have organized or assisted in organizing five churches. I have assisted in purchasing one house of worship from the Southern Methodists, that in De Soto.

I have succeeded, with the help of others, of course, in building two houses of worship, costing about four thousand dollars each. These are in use and nearly done. I have organized or

assisted in starting *fifteen* Sabbath-schools and supplying them with suitable libraries. I have started *three* select schools and turned one of them over to the Township Board of Education. I have preached regularly in *four* communities; at irregular intervals at *fourteen* places. I have invested one hundred and fifty dollars of my own means in Sulphur Springs church. One hundred and fifty dollars more have been invested in the Hanover church. Twenty dollars have been put into the De Soto church. Two hundred dollars of my own money went into the Hillsboro church and school, making in all five hundred and twenty dollars out of my own pocket, saying nothing of what my travelling expenses have been. This statement will furnish you with some idea of what your missionary has been doing in Southeast Missouri for three years. Besides these matters, I have assisted in organizing under the new school law several common schools. I have forwarded to the Home Mission Committee applications for my services another year in three different localities. These points I deemed most important. Three other applications for my services I retained, as I cannot supply the whole country myself. Rev. J. D. Jenkins has worked with me in some places. The completion of the Iron Mountain Railroad will doubtless add much to the population and enterprise of Southeast Missouri.

As I have said all along, so now I say, brethren of the Committee, I prefer pioneering to any other position our beloved church can offer me; but I must have a support for my family, only a *decent* support is all I ask, a bare living. If this cannot be secured to me in this region, I must abandon the field. I dislike *very much* to leave this vast destitute field of Southeast Missouri, just now opening with hope for our cause; but my duty to my family will compel to this action on my part without liberal aid for at least another year.

Rev. C. W. Higgins Osborn, De Kalb County.

Despise not the Day of Small Things.

I came here to join the colony from Binghamton, New York, about the middle of April. Our first services, commencing with April 26th, were held in the railroad depot and were well attended. Since then we have met in a hall over a store, kindly furnished us by a Methodist brother.

On the first Sabbath in May, we re-organized a Sabbath-school (if that could be called a Sabbath-school which was neither opened nor closed with prayer) and it has continued since with, we hope, a growing interest. As many as eighty, counting old and young, are sometimes present. The Sunday-school has received a donation of one hundred and fifty Sabbath-school books from the Sabbath-school in Waverly, New York. They were thankfully received, and if the givers could have seen the delight of the children when the books were first distributed, they would have felt amply repaid for their kindness. We have also obtained Sabbath-school papers for the children, and some twenty-four Golden Censers, and a donation of Social Hymn Books from the Presbyterian Publication Committee.

My Sabbath services are these:—

1. From 10 to 11 I superintend the Sabbath-school. 2. From 11 to 12½ I hold Divine Service. 3. From 4 to 5 P. M. I sing with the children from the Golden Censer or with the adults from the Social Hymn Book. 4. From 5 to 6 Prayer and Conference meeting, which is a Union meeting. This last has been quite interesting and considerable feeling at times has been manifested.

On Sabbath, June 5th, circumstances seeming favorable, Rev. E. B. Sherwood, Presbyterial Missionary, was with us, and organized a Presbyterian Church, consisting of seven members. Two have since joined us, making nine in all. Two elders have been elected and ordained. We hope this small

number may prove as the handful of corn upon the top of the mountains. The several denominations now worship together, but the time cannot be long for the continuance of this state of things. We have the offer of a building lot for a church, and there is some talk of making an effort to build. But most of the colonists are poor—and this being our first year, is one of continual outgoings and very little incomings. Our corn and potatoes, from drought and worms are almost an entire failure, so that some are becoming disheartened and some have already sold their effects and returned East. Still some are resolute, and mean by God's help to hold on and labor on and not despise the day of small things. The hall where we now meet is inconvenient, being unfurnished and low. The seats are without backs. A small, good church building is much needed. May the Lord open a way whereby our necessities may be met. I hope as soon as it becomes cooler, to have one or two out-stations. A new school house is just completed some four miles from us, and I have been invited to preach there. We hope to see good results from our labors among this people.

DELAWARE.

Rev. H. J. Gaylord, Lincoln.

A Pioneer Work.

My report will be prefaced with some statements respecting Lincoln, the centre of my field. This, as the committee are aware, is a colony of wholly Northern people. Immigration continues, though the tide flows less rapidly than we could wish. Two residences have been erected and occupied this season, and other buildings are in process of erection. Fruit growing is a remunerative and increasing business among us, but heavy rains had a most damaging effect, especially on our strawberry harvest; of that fruit some 10,000 quarts were this season shipped from our depot to Philadelphia, Boston and New York, chiefly to the latter city. The citizens

of Lincoln have placed on the railroad a through line of market cars to New York, by which our marketing reaches the great market at reduced rates of freight, as also with less delay and damage to the fruit, than when forwarded by express. Lincoln is believed to be an important point, especially as being very much a centre of the Northern immigration to Southern Delaware. Mine is so much a pioneer work, that it yields few present results to embody in a report.

In our congregations, which are unusually full and encouragingly attentive, several new faces of immigrants, coming from the surrounding country, have been seen. It is a trial to the missionary to find people—church-goers and church members in their old home, who here for months together never enter a place of worship, and much less bring their letters. Some of these are the new faces before spoken of. One of them has recently brought a letter and united with us, a duty which I am urging upon others in the same situation to give their attention to.

Our Sunday-school has been during the spring reorganized with enlarged members. An accession to its library has been secured, and with a corps of zealous officers, it is progressing with increased interest and efficiency.

My congregation have lately organized a society by electing a Board of Trustees. We have now a *legal status*, and may receive the deed to our building lot, which by the trustees of the Milford church is held in trust for us. This is another step in advance, and adds encouragement. The trustees have nearly got through with the subscription for my support the ensuing year, preparatory to a renewed application to the Committee for aid.

Allow me to call the attention of the Committee to Houston Station as prospectively an important point. This is a station on the J. and B. Railroad five miles from Milford, and seven or eight miles from my residence. It is a pleasantly laid out village, with several new

houses completed, having frequent accessions to its population from the North. Some sixteen or eighteen Presbyterian members in the immediate vicinity have connected themselves with the church at Milford. But most of them having no conveyances, seldom attend worship in that place. Besides, there are several *native families* around, laboring under the same disadvantage as regards getting to the house of God. They have a flourishing Sabbath-school at the school-house, and bring together a crowd to a preaching service. They have applied to me to preach there with a view to forming a church. I cannot feel that the time has arrived for this movement: but I have preached there several times, and think it one of the most important and promising of my out stations.

NEW YORK.

Rev. J. H. Myers, Milton.

Preaching to the Children.

I take pleasure in saying that this appears to be a remarkably salubrious region, and that the business condition of the community is good, and is promising as respects the future. No special religious zeal or earnestness is now evinced; but an attention and sober spirit is manifested by many, and some Christians have it in their plans of life to bring men to the sanctuary and lead them to the Saviour. The excessive heats of summer which have suspended secular labor in some instances, have diminished our congregations to some extent during the last two or three weeks: in general, the attention at public worship has been very good.

Our services, which formerly were held only in the afternoon, are now maintained with regularity twice every Lord's day; there is also a lecture and prayer-meeting during the week. Some are now present who were not heretofore habitual attendants at any place of worship.

The Sabbath-school, held in the church, continues to be prosperous and

useful. A mission school established one-half mile from the church, in a Methodist neighborhood, is very fully attended, and has been manifestly a blessing. A revival was begun in that neighborhood last winter, in immediate connection with the Sunday-school, and one hundred persons were added to the Methodist church: I do not learn that any conversions occurred at the time in the Presbyterian congregation.

I have adopted the plan of preaching once a month to the children of the congregation; and attend as frequently as possible the sessions of the Sabbath-school. The baptized children of the church were invited to assemble at a special meeting before the last communion; the design was to reorganize them as such, and to give instruction to them and to their parents.

TENNESSEE.

Rev. Andrew Phillips, Kingston.

It is with a thankful heart I am enabled to write that the past three months have been much blessed to me by the Divine favor. I have been so much favored with health, as not to be obliged to omit any appointed service, while the attendance at the church has increased on the average from Sabbath to Sabbath. In the contributions for the church, I am enabled to say there has been a liberal spirit:—a communion service, price thirty dollars; second contribution for Sabbath-school, twenty dollars; table and chairs for church, twenty dollars, our monthly expenses paid. Received to the communion of church by confession, four adults, one restored from the discipline of suspension, making our number of communicants increased five, during past quarter. The Sabbath-school, including Bible classes of young persons, numbers one hundred and ten on roll with a good steady attendance. The respect for the word of God seems to deepen, and the large class of men in church, often more than women, their attention to the word, all point to a good work, which I trust the Lord will do here in answer to prayers. Wednesday

evening is our stated evening for sermon, Friday evening for church prayer-meeting. The prayer-meeting has an attendance of persons not communicants as many as of members; but for want of practice the good talent of this church is not yet as free in prayer as I wish. The great need of this day seems to be holiness of heart, and the more of the truth which can by word and example be impressed upon the heart, the better for all. I find ministers are plenty in this section, and church members not a few of various denominations, but of the first, I must honestly say, I think there is a great need of study, and consistent action, and of the members of churches scattered over this State, I fear they have been poorly taught. These things make me sad, and constantly admonish me that I must do in the fear of God in private as well as in public by teaching of word and example, so as to convince that holiness is the governing principle of true religion. To any who may come south connected with the mission, say to them "Keep your minds free from all political thoughts, and let the effort be to raise the standard of Christian profession."

MINISTERIAL RELIEF FUND.

The following article from the *American Presbyterian*, addressed to the chairman of the Executive Committee, by the venerable Dr. Cox, will be found interesting to the readers of the *PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY*.

To the Rev. Dr. Shepherd, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Ministerial Relief Fund:

REV. AND HONORED BROTHER:—The "Fourth Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the Ministerial Relief Fund, presented to the General Assembly, May, 1868," is lately presented here; and I have just read it with sincere sympathy, and, as I trust, with Christian approbation and thanksgiving to God. It is an interest and an object of great importance, duty, beneficence;

and is so managed, as we all think, who know its principles and its auspices, with wisdom, care, scrutiny, and impartial kindness to needy, and most worthy objects, that I can think only of two causes that might, one or the other, or both combined, hinder its prosperous and appropriate usefulness, namely, **SORDIDNESS**, loving money and misery more than mercy and magnanimity, as too willing to let suffering of this unique and elevated character continue without relief; or, **IGNORANCE** of the facts, and so of the merits, of such peculiar cases, all so well given and depicted in the excellent appeal and argument of the "Report." Such aged and worthy sufferers, the nobles, the peers of the realm of God, **MUST NOT** have their sorrows and their wants unredressed. The Presbyterian church of either branch, —I know them too well to doubt it—needs only to be well informed and assured in the premises, to give, as the Lord loveth, each a *cheerful giver*, in such a cause.

In our noble country, the Church, not the State, the Church—our Maker's and our Saviour's own heritage, the Church of God, must sustain and materially comfort all her own, especially her superannuated, indigent, and faithful ministers? To neglect them were not only unprofitable and short-sighted; it is **SIN**; it deserves no better name, in the sight of God, though avoided by many wealthy Christians—if that name may be applied to such personages—in modern times who, too often, seem to act, as imitating those in the parable, Luke x: 31, 32, who *passed by on the other side*, so prudentially, and in such state, becoming high life, or gentlemen of means and mode and dignity! The good Samaritan has the honor and the praise of all men, as well as the benediction of our God, for the "relief" he so cordially and so effectually extended to the needy, injured sufferer. Hear the word—"Go thou and do likewise." Great cause, my dear sir, has the writer to thank our God, that though an old

and lonely minister, who entered the last fourth of a centennial life on the 25th ult., yet he is not among the suitors, but would rather be of the patrons of this munificence. "*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*" Though his income is quite limited, and not he alone depending on it, yet he writes here his purpose, if so spared, that the next "Report" of the wise and good committee to our Assembly, shall contain my name, with more, perhaps, than two mites contributed. I respectfully ask every reader of this, if not there already, to have **HIS** or **HER** own proper attestation and example there, honorably and honestly inserted; one common and honest and impressive *commendamus* to so good a cause?

If we love the Saviour, so of necessity love we also His ministers; hence, to write our names in the books of His kingdom, if done in godly sincerity, is demonstration, too, that our own names are written by Himself in the Lamb's Book of Life, from the foundation of the world.

But I am too long in writing, as often, or sometimes, I have been in preaching; they say,

Ye old and faithful ministers of Christ,
Winners of souls, so prospered by His grace;
There are on earth, their thoughts oft not express'd,

Who love and venerate your name and face—
But more your characters, conformed to His;
Faith, piety, and patience in your course:
The good you do, best known in worlds of bliss,
The wise on earth attribute to its source.
God gives the increase. Oft He tries His own;
This world is but vestibular to heaven:
"Lord God omnipotent;" He fills the throne—
Jehovah's word inviolably given,
You know, and oft have realized its worth,
Its cordial comforts thro' your pilgrimage:
He can forget you—**NEVER**, on the earth;
Your griefs or fears, the weaknesses of age!
Time's pinions fleet—soon comes **ETERNITY**;
And death is yours, as well as life eternal,
Th' unfading Paradise of God you'll see;
Rich fruits, bright scenes, its airs forever vernal.
And what communion, what society,
Vision, fruition, and perfection full—
But here the old, the wise, as babes must be—
Partial our knowledge; our perception dull;
We wait and trust and hope; but there **WE SEE!**

SAMUEL H. COX.

GOOD RESOLUTIONS.

In one of the Reformed churches the following series of resolutions was sent in a circular to each member of the church. Such action could not fail of good results.

MY DEAR FRIEND:—Will you not consider and pray over the following resolutions, and endeavor to make them your own?

1. From henceforth I dedicate myself more entirely to the cause of Christ and the salvation of sinners.

2. I will make it a matter of conscience to be always, Providence permitting, in my place at church, both morning and afternoon.

3. I will make it a matter of conscience to be always, Providence permitting, in my place at the prayer-meeting and the weekly lecture. If on these evenings I

go out anywhere, it shall be to these services.

4. I will make it a matter of conscience, as a member of the Sabbath-school, to endeavor to go myself, and also, by precept and example, to induce the teachers and scholars to go, from the Sabbath-school directly to the house of God.

5. I will make it a matter of conscience, every week, to do something to promote the cause of Christ, by speaking a word of good cheer to some fellow-Christian, by endeavoring to awaken some sinner and point him to Christ, or by using my influence to induce him to frequent the house of God.

6. I will try faithfully, by God's grace, to be instrumental in the conversion of one soul at least this year. I will pray for it, speak for it, work for it.

HOME MISSIONARY APPOINTMENTS,

Made in September, 1868.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Rev. J. S. Bingham, Belmont, N. Y. | Rev. W. P. Teitsworth, Lebanon, Ill. |
| “ Isaac M. Ely, Ellicottville, N. Y. | “ S. Osinga, Unadilla and Plainfield, Mich. |
| “ E. C. Pritchett, Oriskany, N. Y. | George Ransom, Muir, Mich |
| “ Armon Spencer, Williamson, N. Y. | “ J. Walker, Pawamo, Mich. |
| “ Enos Wood, Brownville and Dexter, N. Y. | “ E. F. Waldo, Linden and Argentine, Mich. |
| “ P. S. Davies, Birmingham, Pa. | “ W. M. Hoyt, Mendota, Wis. |
| “ Yates Hickey, Abington and Clarks Greene, Pa. | “ Chas. Richards, Pardeeville and Wycocna, Wis. |
| “ Ogden Henderson, Roscoe, Ohio. | “ A. H. Carrier, Minneapolis, Minn. |
| “ R. G. McCarthy, Bowling Green, Ohio. | “ I. N. Crittenden, Keokuk, Iowa. |
| “ John W. Thompson, Berlin, Ohio. | “ H. H. Kellogg, Cedar Rapids Presbytery, Iowa. |
| “ W. N. Steele, Alamo, Ind. | “ D. M. Moore, Lawrence, Kansas. |
| “ Willard P. Gibson, Pana, Ill. | “ F. L. Nash, Alameda, California. |
| “ C. H. Palmer, Middleport, Ill. | |

DONATIONS

Received by the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions in September, 1868.

NEW YORK.			
Augusta 1st Pres ch,	\$65 47	Valatie Pres ch,	\$20 00
Brooklyn 1st Pres ch, additional,	50 00	Yonkers Pres ch, Sabbath-school,	150 00
Brooklyn South Pres ch, additional,	500 00		\$2010 68
Brooklyn Lafayette Avenue Pres ch, in part,	631 33	NEW JERSEY.	
Belmont Pres ch,	26 50	Elizabeth, A Friend,	\$5 00
De Ruyter Pres ch,	5 00	Morristown South St Pres ch Sabbath-school, Missionary Association,	800 00
Geneva Pres ch, Sabbath-school,	35 00	Orange 1st Pres ch,	50 00
Hillsdale Pres ch,	8 50	Orange 2d Pres ch,	125 00
Hudson 1st Pres ch,	150 00	Succasunna Pres ch,	20 85
Irvington 2d Pres ch, additional,	250 00		\$1000 85
Ithaca Pres ch, additional,	56 00	PENNSYLVANIA.	
Marathon Pres ch,	9 04	Allentown Pres ch,	\$22 36
New York Dry Dock Chapel congregation,	7 95	Chester City Pres ch,	21 00
Pike Pres ch,	6 25	East Greene Pres ch,	14 00
Pompey Pres ch,	40 00	Kerr's Hill Pres ch,	10 00

Springfield Pres ch,	\$6 25	Milwaukee Dutch Pres ch,	\$7 25
		Milwaukee 1st Pres ch, additional,	1 50
DELAWARE.	\$73 61	Milwaukee 1st Pres ch Sabbath-school,	63 00
Drawyers Pres ch,	\$20 00	Marrinette Pres ch, balance,	1 00
		Omro Pres ch,	9 50
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.		Oconto Pres ch,	15 00
Washington 6th Pres ch,	\$30 00		\$121 35
OHIO.		IOWA.	
Bloomville Pres ch,	\$8 70	Cedar Rapids Pres ch,	\$27 00
Huntington, Rev A R Clark,	10 00	Centre Point Pres ch,	7 73
Kinsman Pres ch,	48 00	Marietta Pres ch,	4 60
Lyme Pres ch,	17 50	State Centre Pres ch,	14 63
Putnam Pres ch Sabbath-school,	25 00		\$54 00
Toledo Westminster Pres ch,	107 00	MISSOURI.	
Vienna Pres ch,	15 60	Hanover Pres ch,	\$5 00
Legacy from estate of Charles Wells,		Sulphur Springs Pres ch,	5 00
Coshocton per W T Wells, Decatur,			\$10 00
Illinois,	50 00	CONNECTICUT	
	\$281 80	New Haven, Rev D W Lathrop,	\$20 00
INDIANA.		Stamford 1st Pres ch, in part,	709 83
Montezuma Pres ch,	\$3 30		\$729 83
New Bethel Pres ch,	2 65		
Putnamville Pres ch,	7 50	Total amount received,	\$4747 00
	\$13 45	EDW. A. LAMBERT, <i>Treasurer</i> ,	
ILLINOIS.		45 John Street, New York.	
Chicago Olivet Pres ch Sabbath-school	\$100 00	P. O. Box 3863.	
Dunton Pres ch,	30 00		
Plymouth Pres ch,	30 00	Received for the Freedmen.	
Upper Alton Pres ch.	30 00	NEW JERSEY.	
	\$190 00	South Orange Pres ch Sabbath-school,	\$25 00
MICHIGAN.		OHIO.	
Burr Oak Pres ch,	\$10 00	Huntington, Rev A R Clark,	\$5 00
Brighton Pres ch,	20 65	Total amount received,	\$30 00
Brighton, Bitten School House,	10 10	EDW. A. LAMBERT, <i>Treasurer</i> ,	
Brighton Bird School House,	9 80	45 John Street, New York.	
Detroit 1st Pres ch, J S Farrand Esq,	62 50	P. O. Box 3863.	
Emerson Pres ch,	6 25		
Howell Pres ch,	37 08	A CHANGE OF TIME.	
Independence Pres ch,	5 00	The monthly meetings of the Presby-	
Muir Pres ch,	35 00	terian Home Mission Committee, have	
Pewamo Pres ch,	15 00	been changed from the 3d Wednesday	
	\$211 38	to the 2d Tuesday of each month.	
WISCONSIN.			
Columbus 1st Pres ch,	\$3 20		
Lodi Pres ch, Mon Con Coll,	17 60		
Lodi Pres ch Sabbath-school,	3 30		

EDUCATION ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Receipts for September, 1868.

NEW YORK.		ILLINOIS.	
New York City Fourth Avenue,	\$183 37	Belvidere 1st,	\$33 00
Geneseo 2d Pres ch,	22 80	MISCELLANEOUS.	
Plattsburgh Pres ch,	20 00	Wm P Doubleday of Goshen County,	\$5 00
Watertown Stone St,	19 53	J. W. BENEDICT, <i>Treasurer</i> ,	
Shelter Island Pres ch,	8 50	P. O. Box 2136.	
Pike Pres ch,	8 28	128 Broadway, New York City.	
NEW JERSEY.			
Bergen 1st ch,	\$68 59		
Wantage 2d,	18 50	Remittances should be forwarded to the Treas-	
PENNSYLVANIA.		urer. All other communications should be ad-	
East Whiteland,	\$12 00	dressed to the <i>General Secretary</i> ,	
Reeseville,	10 00	Rev. JOHN G. ATTERBURY, D.D.,	
OHIO.		Presbyterian Rooms 150 Nassau, St., New York.	
Cleveland 2d ch,	\$53 48		
MICHIGAN.			
Fenton 1st,	\$15 00		

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AND

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